HOUSE BILL 1158

By Johnson C

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39 and Title 49, relative to certain criminal offenses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

- SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-4216(a)(2), is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:
 - (C) Who transmits by an electronic device any communication containing a credible threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student.
- SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-1018, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:
 - (d) Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c), a school employee, student, or volunteer who witnesses or has reliable information that a student has transmitted by an electronic device any communication containing a credible threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student, as prohibited by § 49-6-4216, shall report such information to the appropriate school official designated by the school district's policy. Failure to follow appropriate remedial procedures in accordance with § 49-6-4216 shall subject a school district to a cause of action for damages arising from any bodily injury or death that comes to the student who is the subject of the threatened harm.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to any communication transmitted on or after the effective date of this act.